

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 L-02 H-02 PA-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, EEC, EGEN, PFOR

SUBJECT: PROGRAM AND AGENDA FOR US-EC CONSULATATIONS, MAY
29-30.

REF: A) STATE 110680

B) EC BRUSSELS 3879

1. SUMMARY: THE COMMISSION CAN ACCEPT WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS THE SCHEDULE SET FORTH IN REF A. WHILE GENERALLY AGREEING WITH THE AGENDA, COMMISSION OFFICIALS WOULD LIKE IT SOMEWHAT REARRANGED; IN PARTICULAR, THEY DO NOT WISH BILATERAL ISSUES TO BE ON THE PROGRAM FOR DISCUSSION AT THE MAY 29 WORKING DINNER. END SUMMARY.

2. WE DISCUSSED THE SCHEDULE AND AGENDA IN PARA 5 OF REF A WITH LOERKE (US DESK OFFICER) AND FORTESCUE (MEMBER OF SOAMES' CABINET) ON MAY 14. THEY FOUND THE SCHEDULE ACCEPTABLE WITH THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS:

A. UNDER SEC. ROBINSON IS SCHEDULED TO CALL ON EC COMMISSION
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PRESIDENT ORTOLI AT 10 A.M., MAY 29. THEREFORE, "SESSION II"

SHOULD BE SHOWN AS BEGINNING AT "10:20 FOR 10:30"--I.E. AS SOON AFTER 10:20 AS THE PRINCIPALS ARE READY.

B. A FIFTEEN-MINUTE BREAK BEFORE LUNCH IS STANDARD COMMISSION FORM, AND THE LUNCH WILL BE A LEISURELY ONE, ALLOWING FOR INFORMAL CONVERSATION. THE LUNCH PERIOD SHOULD BE SHOWN AS 1:15 TO 3:00 P.M., WITH THE AFTERNOON MEETING, "SESSION III", BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER.

C. FIFTEEN MINUTES SHOULD BE ALLOWED BETWEEN THE END OF THE AFTERNOON MEETING AND THE PRESS CONFERENCE, WHICH THEY WOULD TENTATIVELY (SUBJECT TO CHECKING WITH THE COMMISSION SPOKESMAN'S OFFICE) SCHEDULE FOR 4:45 P.M.

3. THE COMMISSION OFFICIALS, WHILE THEY GENERALLY AGREED WITH THE CONTENTS OF THE AGENDA, HAD SOME DEFINITE OBJECTIONS REGARDING ITS ORDERING:

A. THEY WERE INSISTENT THAT BILATERAL ISSUES SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN UP AT THE WORKING DINNER OF MAY 29--EXCEPT THAT, IF TIME REMAINED AFTER DISCUSSION OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION, THE ISSUE OF MANAGING US/EC RELATIONS IN THE BROADEST SENSE MIGHT BE DISCUSSED. LOERKE AND FORTESCUE DID NOT WISH THE ECONOMIC DISCUSSION ABBREVIATED, AND THEY FELT STRONGLY THAT THE COMMISSION PARTICIPANTS IN THE DINNER WOULD NEITHER BE PREPARED FOR NOR DESIROUS OF DISCUSSING THE SUBSTANCE OF BILATERAL ISSUES. THEY PROPOSED, INSTEAD, THAT THE FIRST FORTY MINUTES OR SO OF THE FRIDAY MORNING PLENARY BE RESERVED FOR A DISCUSSION OF US/EC BILATERAL RELATIONS. THEY ALSO ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF JUST WHICH BILATERAL ISSUES THE US WAS THINKING OF DISCUSSING; THEY WERE ALSO PUZZLED BY THE REFERENCE TO "AGRICULTURE AND GRAIN RESERVES." THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD NOT ANTICIPATED ANY EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF AGRICULTURAL MATTERS MAY 29-30 AND HAD NOT LINED UP A SENIOR AGRICULTURE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THESE MEETINGS. THE PROPER POSITION ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION OF AGRICULTURE AND GRAIN RESERVES DEPENDS, IN THE COMMISSION OFFICIALS' VIEW, ON JUST WHAT IS PROPOSED FOR DISCUSSION. IF IT IS US/EC BILATERAL ISSUE, THEN DISCUSSION WOULD TAKE PLACE UNDER THE HEADING OF US/EC RELATIONS. IF SOMETHING ELSE IS INTENDED, DISCUSSION WOULD PROPERLY TAKEN PLACE AT SOME OTHER POINT IN THE AGENDA, E.G., UNDER "NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS" IF WE ARE THINKING OF FOLLOW-ON TO THE ROME WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. THE COMMISSION HAS TAKEN THE VIEW ALL ALONG THAT SINCE THE TIME WILL BE SHORTER THAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USUAL AND THE AGENDA CROWDED, THERE WOULD NOT BE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF TRADE-RELATED ISSUES. THEIR VIEW HAS BEEN REINFORCED BY SCHEDULING OF THE DENT/SOAMES TALK ON MAY 22.

B. THEY NOTED THAT THE SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER "RELATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES" WERE NUMEROUS, AND PROPOSED THAT THE REMAINDER OF THE FRIDAY MORNING SESSION BE DEVOTED TO THIS HEADING. (THEY ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE OPTICAL BALANCE RESULTING FROM THE REITERATED REFERENCE TO "EC" RELATIONS

WITH THE ARABS, CEMA, ETC., AND SAID IT WOULD BE BETTER TO TALK SIMPLY OF EACH SIDE'S RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES AND AREAS CONCERNED.) BOTH LOERKE AND FORTESCUE FELT, IN FACT, THAT IN VIEW OF HARTMAN'S PRESENCE, SOAMES WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A PRELIMINARY AND "CONFIDENTIAL" DISCUSSION OF THE GREEK/TURKISH, PORZU73 3 -,\$ 8.8)-4 173 589, -5 5#3 \$8,,34. HOW- EVER, THEY WERE WORRIED ABOUT HAVING TOO FULL OR RIGID AN AGENDA FOR A DINNER DISCUSSION -- WHICH THEY SAID IS BOUND TO BE INFORMAL AND DISCURSIVE -- PARTICULARLY IF IT WOULD PREEMPT A MORE SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS IN THE PLENARY.

C. THEY DID NOT AGREE WITH THE IDEA OF SUBSUMING "RAW MATERIALS" UNDER "NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS." THE RAW MATERIALS ISSUE HAD ASPECTS THAT LAY OUTSIDE THE NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONSHIP. THEY FELT THAT THE DISCUSSIONS OF FRIDAY AFTERNOON SHOULD EITHER BE UNDER THREE HEADINGS -- NORTH/SOUTH (OR LDC) RELATIONS; RAW MATERIALS; ENERGY--OR TWO: NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS; RAW MATERIALS AND ENERGY.

4. WE MAY GET SOME FURTHER FEEDBACK AFTER LOERKE AND FORTESCUE REPORT TO THEIR SUPERIORS. HOWEVER, THE TWO OFFICIALS COMMENTED WITH ASSUREDNESS ON MOST OF THE POINTS DISCUSSED, AND THEIR COMMENTS CAN BE TAKEN AS GENERALLY INDICATING COMMISSION REACTIONS.

5. THOUGH LOERKE AND FORTESCUE WILL BE BACK TO US LATER WITH A MORE DEFINITE RESPONSE, OUT INTERPRETATION OF THEIR REMARKS WOULD RESULT IN AN AGENDA APPROXIMATELY AS FOLLOWS:

A. GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION (AT DINNER)

II. OVERALL US/EC RELATIONS (IF TIME PERMITS A DISCUSSION OF OVERALL MANAGEMENT ASPECTS AT DINNER, WITH BILATERAL ISSUES TO BE TAKEN UP AT THE FRIDAY PLEANRY).

II. RELATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES (SOME ASPECTS COULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISCUSSED AT DINNER, WITH MORE EXTENDED DISCUSSION ON FRIDAY MORNING)

III. NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS

IV. RAW MATERIALS

V. ENERGYGREENWALD

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